The Open Space Institute (OSI) is a nonprofit organization that has worked for over 30 years to conserve land in eastern New York, New England, and New Jersey. The primary geographic focus of OSI's program has been the Hudson River Valley. To date, OSI has protected nearly 90,000 acres for parks, farmland preservation, historic sites, and other conservation purposes. In partnership with the National Park Service (NPS), the Columbia Land Conservancy, the Town of Kinderhook, and others, OSI identified a "Kinderhook Creek Conservation Corridor." Within this area lie two significant historic sites: Martin Van Buren National Historic Site and the Columbia County Historical Society's Van Alen House. In addition, this land encompasses a largely unspoiled agricultural landscape and a creek that is popular with fishermen, swimmers, and boaters. Over the years, OSI has helped protect nearly 1.000 acres of open space and working farmland within this corridor.

Addressing the concerns of citizens and the National Park Service at a critical time, Open Space Institute purchased a large tract of Van Buren farmland, including the historic Lindenwald farm cottage. OSI worked with the NPS to establish easements protecting Van Buren resources, and held those until such time as citizens and public organizations, including the Friends of Lindenwald, could request and achieve congressional approval for a boundary expansion in 2009.

In order to keep the farmland in agricultural use, Open Space sold a 101-acre parcel to Roxbury Farm, a community-supported cooperative organic farm. Roxbury Farm agreed to the easement stipulations suggested by the National Park Service protecting historic resources. This year, OSI donated 26 acres of land within the historic core of Lindenwald, including a Van Buren era farm cottage, to the National Park Service to benefit the people of the United States.

In addition to protecting Lindenwald in its historic agricultural setting, OSI has worked with the NPS to create a trail easement that will offer increased opportunities for public enjoyment of the park and surrounding land as part of an overall plan that was developed in concert with local landowners, citizens, and governments.

The unique partnership between OSI, Roxbury Farm, Friends of Lindenwald, and the NPS has created new opportunities to help visitors understand the importance of agriculture in President Van Buren's life, the role of the changing agricultural economy before the Civil War, and the value of agriculture to America's future.

HONORING MR. GEORGE MARTIN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK USE OF REPRESEN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, June 14, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 90th birthday of a proud son of the city of Buffalo and an ardent believer in the Jesuit educational tradition—George Martin.

When I think of George Martin, I think of a man of deep faith, commitment to public service, and a man who most of all places tremendous value in quality education. George Martin is one of the proudest Buffalonians I have ever had the pleasure to know. His commitment to education is so vast, so complete, that these words hardly live up to the record he has compiled.

A proud alumnus of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, George's service to that institution is unparalleled. A longtime board chair, George was designated an Affiliate Christian Brother due to his faithful service to St. Joe's and to the wider LaSallian community.

George has demonstrated as deep a commitment to Canisius College, where he is accurately regarded as a living legend. George was the very first lay Executive Vice President of Canisius College, where he blazed a trail and set an example for literally thousands of impressionable students. Today, a dormitory and an academic award are named in his honor, and an endowed scholarship fund exists in his name, demonstrating all the more the deep and abiding commitment George has to the college itself and to education in general.

George has a great history in public service as well. A veteran of the Sedita administration in Buffalo City Government, George was also a friend and confidant to Governor Hugh Carey. George also served with honor and distinction for many years in leadership of the New York State Council of Parks, where he worked tirelessly to maintain the New York State Park system's preeminent position as among the very best state systems in the nation.

Hailing from the proud neighborhoods of South Buffalo, George served his country with honor and bravery in World War II, and is patriarch to many nieces and nephews—many themselves alumni of Canisius. Our community is fortunate that this proud family shared their uncle with us, to dedicate so very much to the growth and success of these important Jesuit institutions.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me and with the membership of the House to honor the dedicated service of Buffalo's George Martin, and to wish good health and Godspeed to him upon the occasion of his 90th birthday.

PAUL MADAY RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, June 14, 2011

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Mr. Paul M. Maday on his retirement from his position as Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer for the Boilermakers Local 374, as well as his position as Recording Secretary-Treasurer for the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council. Paul, a member of the Boilermakers Local 374 for many years, has dedicated his life to the interests of his fellow tradespeople and the entire community in Northwest Indiana. For his lifetime of service to the Boilermakers, Paul was honored at a retirement dinner that took place at Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana, on Friday, June 10, 2011.

Paul Maday has been a member of the Boilermakers Local 374 for 34 years. During his tenure, he has held numerous positions. After

four years as an apprentice, Paul became a journeyman, a general foreman, and a union steward. Paul's career continued to advance, and he was named Assistant Business Manager in 1995, a position he held for ten years. Because of his hard work and tremendous leadership skills, Paul went on to become Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer 2005 and was reelected to this position in 2008. Paul also has served as Recording Secretary-Treasurer for the Northwestern Indiana Building Trades Council since 2005. For his noteworthy level of skill and commitment, Paul was appointed to the Indiana State Pressure Vessel Board in 2002, 2005, and 2008. Additionally, he has served as chairman of the Boilermakers National Pension Trust and the National Annuity Trust and also served as chairman of the Tripartite Committee for U.S. Steel, ArcelorMittal Indiana Harbor and Burns Harbor, representing the Northwestern Indiana Building Trades Council. Paul's passion, devotion, and continuous support to the Building Trades is truly remarkable, and for this he is worthy of the highest praise.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in the craftsmanship and loyalty of tradespeople. For many years, Paul Maday has displayed unwavering dedication to the members of the Building Trades, and his various positions have allowed him the opportunity to touch the lives of countless individuals. Not only has Paul selflessly served his local members, but through his work with the Building Trades, he has been a remarkable example of just how much good a dedicated individual can do for a community. When it comes to serving those in need, Paul Maday has been a leader of his members and the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council to ensure that innumerable good works are done. Paul also selflessly gives of his time to many charitable organizations. He has been involved in the Alzheimer's Association walk-a-thon fundraiser and has served on the executive board for the American Heart Association of Northwest Indiana, as well as the Northwest Indiana Workforce Investment board. Although Paul has served the Building Trades and his community with complete dedication, it is his commitment to his family that is most impressive. Paul and his wonderful wife, Terry, have two beloved children and one grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, Paul Maday has given his time and efforts selflessly to the union members he has worked so tirelessly with and represented so well. He has given to the people of Northwest Indiana personally and through his work with the Building Trades Council. He has been a true role model to his peers and a true friend to Northwest Indiana. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Paul for his outstanding contributions and in wishing him well upon his retirement.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2055

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES $Tuesday, \ June \ 14, \ 2011$

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, today, with passage of the FY 2012 Military Construction/Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill, we renew our